

REMARKS:

The Applicants respectfully submit that the Restriction Requirement alleges that Claims 1-14 and 15-28 are, drawn to a process of supply chain activity optimization and form the basis of Group I. (26 February 2007 Office Action, Page 2). The Applicants respectfully disagree. In particular, the Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 59 and 60 are also drawn to a process of supply chain activity optimization, based on the Examiner's grouping of the claims. For example, Claim 59 depends from independent Claim 1 and Claim 60 depends from independent Claim 15. The Applicants respectfully request correction of Group I to include Claims 1-14, 15-28, 59, and 60.

The Applicants hereby elect Group I including Claims 1-14 and 15-28 (which are directed to a single species), which are further directed to a process of supply chain activity optimization with traverse, in accordance with the applicable Rules of Practice and to advance the prosecution of the subject Application.

In addition, if, based on the Examiner's grouping of the claims, the Examiner agrees with the Applicants request to correct Group I to include 1-14, 15-28, 59, and 60, the Applicants, in the alternative, hereby elect Group I including Claims 1-14, 15-28, 59, and 60 (which are directed to a single species), which are further directed to a process of supply chain activity optimization with traverse, in accordance with the applicable Rules of Practice and to advance the prosecution of the subject Application.

The Applicants respectfully submit that the Restriction Requirement is improper. Accordingly, in traverse, Applicants request withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement. Because, the Applicants have elected an alleged Group and set forth the claims directed to that Group, as set forth by the Examiner, this response is complete. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned, Steven J. Laureanti, at (480) 830-2700 with any questions, comments, or suggestions relating to the subject Application.

CONCLUSION:

In view of the foregoing election with traverse and remarks, this application is considered to be in condition for allowance, and early reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Although the Applicants believe no fees are deemed to be necessary; the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayments, to **Deposit Account No. 500777**. If an extension of time is necessary for allowing this Response to be timely filed, this document is to be construed as also constituting a Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) to the extent necessary. Any fee required for such Petition for Extension of Time should be charged to **Deposit Account No. 500777**.

Please link this application to Customer No. 53184 so that its status may be checked via the PAIR System.

Respectfully submitted,

26 March 2007
Date

/Steven J. Laureanti/signed
Steven J. Laureanti, Registration No. 50,274

BOOTH UDALL, PLC
1423 S. Higley Rd., Ste. 110
Mesa AZ, 85206
214.636.0799 (mobile)
480.830.2700 (office)
480.830.2717 (fax)
steven@boothudall.com

CUSTOMER NO. 53184